

Citrus grandis (Rutaceae), 52388. **Pummelo**. From Nakorn Chaisri, Siam. Seeds presented by Dr. Yai, of Bangkok, Minister of Agriculture, through Mr. J. F. Rock, agricultural explorer. "'Nakorn Chaisri pummelo.'" There are three distinct seasonal crops, and I was told that the crop borne during the rainy season usually produced seeds, while in the other seasons the fruits are seedless. Dr. W. A. Graham, agricultural advisor, says that the occasional formation of seeds is due to pollination by a fly which is apparently absent at other seasons.

"Dr. Yai, who is an expert on pummelos, etc., says that it will be futile to take the Nakorn Chaisri pummelo to America. He says that when plants of this pummelo are brought to and planted in Bangkok, they change their character entirely and become quite a different thing, that the trees, in fact, bear fruits identical with a pummelo long cultivated in Bangkok and known as 'Ban Kun Non.' Dr. Yai thinks that the Nakorn Chaisri pummelo originated from this Ban Kun Non, and that when brought to Bangkok from Nakorn Chaisri, only an hour or so distant by rail, it reverts to the Ban Kun Non. The Nakorn Chaisri pummelo cannot be shipped for various reasons, the main one is that it loses its aroma.

"The citrus fruits differ considerably here: for example, all citrus fruits grown south of Bangkok, i. e., nearer the sea, are far superior to those north of Bangkok. A matter of eight miles or so makes a tremendous difference. Citrus fruits evidently require salt or brackish water. Those grown south of Bangkok are irrigated or inundated by very salty water as the tide carries the ocean water a considerable distance up the Menam river. When planting the Nakorn Chaisri pummelo elsewhere the natives always add salt to the soil.

"North of Bangkok the river water is quite sweet. I tasted Mandarins (choice fruits grown south of Bangkok) and fruits from stock which was derived from the southern garden but grown north of Bangkok, and the difference was tremendous. Those grown south of Bangkok sell six ticals a hundred, while those grown north of Bangkok, although larger than the southern Mandarins, are not comparable in aroma and sell for three ticals per hundred."

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